



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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Richmond Human Services official to join Virginia Department of Social Services

- Paul McWhinney to be instrumental in child services transformation -

Richmond – The director of the Richmond Department of Social Services will once again work for the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS). In the Nineties, Paul McWhinney served as northern regional director and briefly as chief deputy commissioner for VDSS.

In his new role, McWhinney will lead the state agency's division of family services. VDSS Commissioner Anthony Conyers Jr. believes McWhinney's return to the agency comes at a critical time. "Paul's 30-plus years of experience will be enormously beneficial as the Commonwealth continues its efforts to improve child welfare services and increase the number of safe and permanent homes for children and youth in Virginia. Paul is a strategic thinker and compassionate leader, and we welcome him back to the agency," Conyers said.

McWhinney holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Welfare (1974) and Master of Social Work (1979) degree from Virginia Commonwealth University as well as a Master of Arts in Public Administration (1987) from the University of Virginia. He is a member of the National Association of Social Workers and the Academy of Certified Social Workers. The hire is effective July 28, 2008.

The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) www.dss.virginia.gov Home Office is located in Richmond and administers social services programs, consistent with Federal and State law and policy of the State Board of Social Services through 120 local departments of social services (LDSS) throughout the state. VDSS mission is "People helping people triumph over poverty, abuse and neglect to shape strong futures for themselves, their families and communities."

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